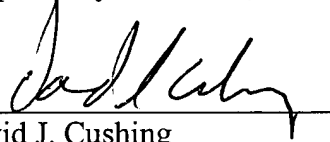


Preliminary Amendment  
Attorney Docket Q67618

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David J. Cushing  
Registration No. 28,703

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: December 12, 2001

1000957-121201  
1000957-121201

Preliminary Amendment  
Attorney Docket Q67618

**APPENDIX**

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**The claims are amended as follows:**

3. (Amended) An aircraft of the airplane or glider type according to claim 1 ~~or claim~~ 2, characterized in that it includes at least one solar generator (5) cooled by convection with the surrounding air at said high altitude.

4. (Amended) An aircraft of the airplane or glider type according to any ~~one of~~ claims 1 to 3 claim 1, characterized in that it includes at least one storage battery (7) having superconductive components.

5. (Amended) A method of getting an aircraft of the airplane or glider type as specified in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1 onto station, the method being characterized by the following steps:

- on the ground, said aircraft (1) is secured to an independent transporter (3);
- said transporter (3) takes said aircraft (1) to a high altitude at which it is to operate making use solely of propulsion means of said transporter (3);
- said transporter (3) releases said aircraft (1) at the altitude (H) and at least approximately at the intended location of its operating station; and
- if necessary, said aircraft (1) uses its own propulsion means (2) to put itself finally on station and take up its proper orientation.

1009573-121001  
PCT/PTO 12 DEC 2001

8. (Amended) A telecommunications network comprising a plurality of radio relays, characterized in that it includes at least one radio relay carried by an aircraft (1) of the airplane or glider type as specified in ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, and put onto station at high altitude.